

Senator Trumbull unsuccessfully endeavored to obtain the consent of his party in the republican caucus last week to reviving the famous Committee on Retrenchment. His object was to have Senator Schurz its chairman, so that many things which are hidden might be brought to the broad light of the open day. Failing in this determination was to offer the resolution in the Senate; but this morning Senator Conkling took the bull by the horns by asking that body to take up his resolution instructing the Committee on Military Affairs to inquire into the facts attending the Hodge defalcation and to report what measures are necessary to prevent similar defalcations in the future. General Logan, himself a member of the Military Committee, exposed the extreme weakness of this proposition by showing that if the matter was to be referred to a select committee, the Finance Committee of the Senate, it ought to be the Finance Committee of the House. He then showed the relations of the Treasury Department, Mr. Frellinghuysen, somewhat inadvertently, perhaps, considering the general tenor of his remarks, took the ground that was useless to inquire in a single hour when so many defalcations were to be investigated. Senator Trumbull, who to-day acted as the champion of the defunct Committee on Retrenchment, said that for six years the Senate had a committee for making just such investigations as that contemplated by the Senator from New York. He pointed out that this is the era of defalcations, alluding to the Hodge affair, the Norton defalcation in the New York Post Office, the Stokes, and Powell swindle, and, finally, the recently discovered fraud in the Treasury office. Senator Trumbull closed his notice by taking similar grounds thus directing the administration and supporting the line of policy to which his committee is committed. These matters went on for a while and developed a good deal of feeling, till Senator Trumbull stepped into the breach by suggesting that Senator Conkling's resolution should be taken up.

In the Senate Mr. Morton submitted a concurrent resolution providing, in legislative language, that "Congress shall finish up by the next work in May, and go home before the Presidential Convention convening notice thus early, that the members may hurry up their special jobs, and not delay the adjournment. General Logan introduced a bill to legalize the relief measures extended by the War Department to the Chicago sufferers, so that the technical responsibility for an illegal but praiseworthy expenditure of army supplies may be removed from the officers in charge. Mr. Pomerooy sent up a bill to the Secretary's desk to provide for the division and public sale of some unnecessary Indian lands. Mr. Keck introduced a bill to amend the law, letting them fall into the hands of speculators on a private bid, as the Interior Department lately proposed.

**Education and Labor.**  
The House Committee on Education and Labor reported a bill to amend the laws relating to

A committee, headed by Governor George, of Pennsylvania, the President of the National Council, ex-Governor William A. Newell, of New Jersey, the Chairman of the Executive Committee, William V. Alexander, the Treasurer, and Thomas G. Baker, of New York, Secretary of the Union League of America, held at a conference to-day with the Congressional Republican Committee and members of the Republican National Committee, to lay out the work of the coming Presidential campaign. The interview was considered private, but enough was learned to indicate a vigorous and active campaign.

**Expenses of the Arbitration.** Under the Treaty of Washington, Secretary Fish, in a letter to General Banks, dated 20th of December, invites his attention to the necessity of an early appropriation to meet the expenses of the tribunal of arbitration under the Treaty of Washington, taking into consideration the compensation of the arbitrator, agent and counsel on the part of the United States, the half part of the compensations of the arbitrators appointed by the respective governments, and the expenses of the agents, counsel, and the necessary incidentals.

were the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House  
and the chairman of any committee of either House, to ad-  
minister oaths or affirmations to witnesses in any

ons tending to centralization. The metre is taken as the  
asure of a standard gauge because it will be convenient  
economical for cheap railways. It also contemplates a  
eau of National Railroads.

y Mr. GRIFFITH, (dem.) of Pa.—Granting bounty lands  
oliers and sailors of the late war.

Under the defense moved to quash the indictment, expected that this case will go to the Supreme Court upon the division of the Circuit Court.